

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's early indication that claims 2, 3, 5, 10, 12, 18 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Response to Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)**

Claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 11, 15-17 and 21-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim (U.S. Patent No. 5,966,436). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for at least the following reasons.

1. **Kim does not teach or suggest a method of processing phone dialing for a dial device, wherein different procedures are executed depending on the connection status of the dial device.**

Kim teaches a redialing method in a communication apparatus, wherein the telephone number digits are interlaced and stored with corresponding time intervals between consecutive digits.

Accordingly, the method taught by Kim redials telephone number digits according to corresponding time intervals between consecutive digits, wherein the time intervals are established during a preceding dialing operation. The focus of the redialing method taught by Kim is to record a preceding dialing operation, thus enabling a redialing operation, which repeats exactly the recorded dialing operation in response to a redial key input (see Abstract of Kim).

By contrast, claim 1 of the present application recites a method of processing phone dialing for a dial device, wherein different procedures for storing dialing information are executed depending on the connection status of the dial device. In the claimed invention, when the dial device is not connected, dial key signal inputs are stored sequentially in a first memory and a corresponding label value is stored sequentially in a second memory. However, when the dial device is connected, dial key signal inputs are stored sequentially in the first memory and corresponding time values are stored sequentially in the second memory.

The connection status of the dial device, which is a major feature of the method recited in claim 1, is not taught at all as a limitation by Kim. The label value of claim 1 is

used for identifying dial key signals inputted under disconnect status, while the sequential storage taught by Kim has no such capability for identifying the connection status of the dial device at the time the dial key signals are inputted.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the applied art, and that the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Claims 4 and 8 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kim. Since Kim teaches nothing about the labeling of dial key signals inputted under disconnect status, which is an important feature of claim 1, the features recited in claims 4 and 8 are also not taught by Kim.

For this reason, Claims 4 and 8 also patently define over the cited art, and the rejections of claims 4 and 8 should be withdrawn.

**2. Kim does not teach or suggest a method of processing phone dialing for a dial device, wherein dial key signals and corresponding time values are stored separately.**

While the Office Action states that claim 9 is rejected under U.S.C. 102(b), no rationale supporting the rejection of claim 9 is provided.

Kim teaches a redialing method in a communication apparatus, wherein the telephone number digits are stored with corresponding time intervals interlaced between consecutive digits. The consecutive digit inputs are stored interlaced with the corresponding time intervals in a single memory, as disclosed at Table 1 of Kim.

By contrast, claim 9 of the present invention discloses a method of processing phone dialing for a dial device, wherein the dial key signals are stored in a first memory and the corresponding time values are stored in a second memory. Therefore, the storing of dial key signals and corresponding time values are accomplished in significantly different ways in the cited prior art and in the claimed invention.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 9, as well as dependent claims 11 and 15, patentably distinguish over the cited art, and that the rejection of claims 9, 11 and 15 should be withdrawn.

**3. Kim does not teach or suggest a redialing method, wherein the dial key signals stored in a first memory are sent and dialed with different time lags according**

**to the time values stored in a second memory.**

Kim teaches a redialing method, wherein the telephone number digits and corresponding time intervals between the consecutive digits are retrieved from the same storage, and the telephone number are dialed according to the previously measured time intervals between consecutive digits.

The Examiner asserts that the method taught by Kim has everything claimed in claim 16 of the present application. However, the storing of the dial key signals and corresponding time values is executed in a clearly different way in Claim 16 than in the cited prior art. Specifically, in the claimed invention, corresponding time values are stored only for a first part of the inputted dial key signals, and when the dial key signals are subsequently sent during redialing, it is only the first part of the dial key signals that is delayed in transmission. As discussed above, the invention in Kim makes no such distinction; all of the dial key signals are transmitted during redialing in accordance with the stored time values originally measured and stored.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 16 patentably distinguishes over the cited art, and that the rejection of claim 16 should be withdrawn.

Claim 17 is also rejected as being unpatentable over Kim. Since Kim teaches nothing about storing dial key signals and corresponding time values in a separate first part, which is recited in Claim 16, the features of claim 17 are not disclosed or suggested by Kim either. Claim 17 recited a redialing method, wherein dial key signals are sent and dialed regardless of the time values when the dial key signals have corresponding label values. Since Kim teaches nothing about the label values recited in claim 17, the limitations of Claim 17 are not disclosed by the teachings of Kim.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 17 independently distinguishes over the cited art, and that the rejection of claim 17 should be withdrawn.

**4. Kim does not teach or suggest a dial device, which contains first and second storages for storing dial key signals and time values respectively.**

As discussed above, Kim teaches a communication apparatus, which measures actual time intervals between consecutive inputs and stores the telephone number digits and corresponding time intervals alternatively. The consecutive digit inputs are interlaced

and stored with the corresponding time intervals, as disclosed at Table 1.

However, claim 21 of the present application, recites a dial device that enables separate storage of dial key signals and corresponding time values. Therefore, storage of dial key signals and corresponding time values is accomplished differently in the claimed invention than in the cited prior art.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 21, as well as dependent claims 22-25 patently define over the cited art, and that the rejection of claims 21-25 should be withdrawn.

**Response to Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)**

Claims 6, 7, 13, 14, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of well known prior art (MPEP 2144.03).

It is respectfully submitted that claims 6, 7, 13, 14, 19, and 20 distinguish over the applied art for at least the reason that they depend from allowable claims 1, 9 and 16.

**Conclusion**

As described above, the present application discloses a method of processing phone dialing and redialing functions and the dial device thereof, which can handle the situation that the other party is an automatic answering system, which requires an extension number or a key instruction after pressing the normal phone number. The present invention is able to operate different procedures depending on the connection status of the dial device by using label values, and to maintain and utilize a plurality of dial records to perform redialing by index values. The above-mentioned benefit cannot be obtained by the cited prior art.

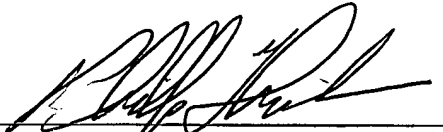
Based on the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and notice of such, with claims 1-26, is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

  
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